

## NEWS RELEASE

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### Resource News

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## **SAFE Campgrounds**

**Roseburg, Ore.** – The Roseburg District of the Bureau of Land Management will reopen the Millpond and Rock Creek Campgrounds and day use areas on July 25, 2001, with a clean bill of health.

The campgrounds were closed and secured on July 19, 2001, due to the discovery of a potential hazardous dumpsite on BLM administered lands outside the campgrounds but nearby. The Environmental Protection Agency, Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, and the BLM have been testing and evaluating the site. Drinking water samples in the campgrounds were taken as well as samples from Rock Creek and a small tributary. All water samples came back clean. Soil samples were also taken at the dumpsite and found to contain traces of solvents, primarily benzene compounds. A specially trained and equipped contractor is being used to clean up the site.

“This has been a long and careful process but every effort has been made to ensure public health and safety. Those who use the area have been concerned about the drinking water and swimming contact safety. The independent lab test results have shown these areas to be perfectly safe. Even though there has been some inconvenience, campers and pavilion users have been very patient and understanding of BLM’s efforts to keep them safe in this situation,” said Jay Carlson, Swiftwater Resource Area Manager.

An investigation into the causes and responsibility of the dumpsite is ongoing.

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